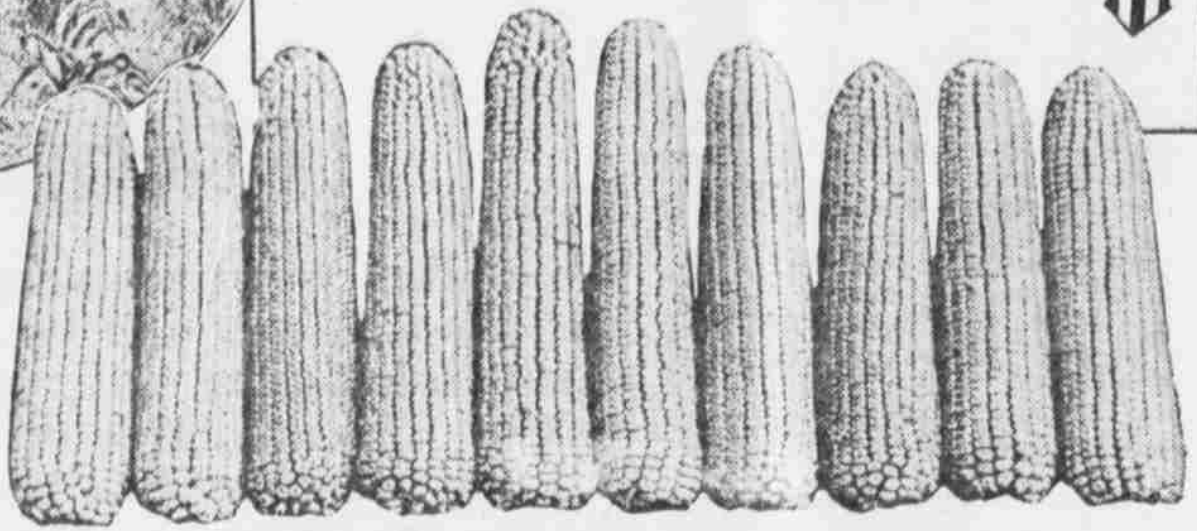


CORN EARLY IN JULY

Farmers of our vast central section not only are giving their sons but are raising bumper crops to help win the war against autocracy

Middle West in Great Food Drive

By Robert H. Moulton



PRIZE EARS FROM IOWA



VENTS of a revolutionary character have taken place on the middle Western farms since America's entry into the war. When President Wilson issued his call to the American farmer to do his duty in war times by feeding the world, or that portion of it engaged in the war for democracy, he launched the biggest drive for increased food production in the history of the world. In fact, no step toward preparedness in connection with the participation of the United States in the war has proceeded more rapidly than the mobilization of the farm resources of the middle West, which just now is preparing itself for the task of feeding not only the United States, but a large part of the world.

Despite the fact that the call to the fields came too late to affect the winter wheat crop, the middle Western farmer has made tremendous advances in increasing the acreage of his other food crops, such as corn, oats, rye and other farm products. Present indications are that the wheat crop will not be large enough to much more than meet the needs of America, let alone the exportation of large quantities of this product which must be made to the allies, but famine is still a distant specter. For the first time in its history the world is going to learn a valuable lesson in domestic economy, and that is the adaptation of other farm products for food purposes. One of the first results will be a world-wide campaign to de-throne King Wheat and enthrone King Corn, whose monarchy heretofore has scarcely extended beyond the boundaries of the United States.

The bumper corn crop which the middle West will raise this summer, barring such unforeseen calamities as drought and floods, will stave off hunger for a large portion of the world. Present indications are that the corn acreage in the 12 great corn states of the country will be increased from 20 to 30 per cent, or even more in some localities, due to the fact that thousands of acres of winter wheat lands were made useless for that purpose by the severe cold weather, which killed the wheat. An increase of 20 per cent in the acreage planted in corn will add approximately 500,000,000 bushels of corn to the nation's crop. A large portion of this increased yield will go to European allies of the United States and to neutral nations. It is probable that Uncle Sam will have to send some of his experts in domestic science abroad to instruct the European in the value and methods of preparing corn as a food product.

The nation's corn crop has averaged 3,000,000,000 bushels in the last few years, a no inconsiderable mark in itself, but reports collected by agricultural experts from the middle West indicate that the 1917 crop will approximate 3,500,000,000 bushels. The bumper corn states of the Union are prepared to do their share in the drive for increased food production. Conservative estimates of what some of the leading states in the corn-belt region will do this year are: Illinois, 400,000,000 bushels; Iowa, 325,000,000 to 350,000,000 bushels; Nebraska, 250,000,000 bushels; Missouri, 225,000,000 bushels; Indiana, 200,000,000 bushels, and Texas, 200,000,000 bushels. Such middle Western states as Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Wisconsin and Michigan will have greatly increased acreages of corn this season, due to several reasons. In the Western group of states which lie in the heart of the wheat belt thousands of acres of winter wheat were killed during the winter. Despite the fact that the spring wheat acreage planted this year is unusually large, there still remained many thousands of acres of land which could be used for no other purpose than for corn or oats, two of the leaders in the great trio of farm crops.

The harvest this summer is likely to see a record-breaking crop of oats, approximating 2,000,000,000 bushels. Tremendous increases will also be made in the rye, kafir corn sorghum and forage crops, all of which are important factors in supplying the tables of the world with important food products. It is this latter activity in planting greatly increased acreages of the minor crops that is expected to bring on a small revolution in farming circles. Instead of depending upon one, two or three of the big trio of crops, the farmer is devoting his energy to the growing of other crops which supplement the food products gained from wheat, corn and oats. Thus, in the case of a failure of any of the important crops, America will have plenty of substitutes to fall back upon.

Already food chemists and experts in almost all of the middle Western states are busily engaged in finding new flour substitutes. Discoveries made in a number of laboratories indicate that America's bread will be baked with the aid of more varieties of flour than ever before. Kafir corn and feterita have been found to make acceptable flours, and the use of cottonseed meal in the preparation of breadstuffs will soon gain widespread popularity. Chemists are engaged on other still hunts for new food substitutes, and by the end of the year America will be eating scores of new foods and combinations of foodstuffs which have been wasted heretofore or fed to live stock.

Emergency food commissions established in all of the states are conducting an aggressive cam-

paign to enlist the support of all farmers in the work of growing greatly increased crops. "Keep every acre working this summer," is a campaign slogan which is heard in all of the great farming states. The result will be that in the fall the farmers will harvest peanut, bean, buckwheat, potato and other "catch crops," a departure in the history of agriculture. According to present indications, the potato crop will be nearly 200,000,000 bushels larger than ever before, while prodigious quantities of peanuts and beans will be available for food products in the fall and during 1918.

The mobilization of the farms for war service has been conducted along many lines of service. Close co-ordination between all branches of the industry has given tremendous impetus to the campaign to increase the nation's food supply.

Travelers who pass through the middle West this year will see scenes along railroad property comparable to those in Europe, where the farmers have been cultivating such idle ground for years. In some states, notably Iowa and Kansas, well-defined steps have been taken to encourage the planting of certain useful crops along the roadsides. Iowa has more than 200,000 acres of unused land along its public highways which could be drafted for this purpose, while Kansas has more than 150,000 acres, according to a recent survey.

It is safe to say that virtually every acre of

land which can be handled conveniently during the summer months has been placed under cultivation in Iowa and the surrounding states. The labor shortage is so serious that thousands of farmers have been greatly handicapped in putting out increased acreage because of the fear that they would be unable to harvest the crops unaided. It is estimated that the middle West will require an army of 500,000 farm laborers this summer if the food crop is to be saved in its entirety. Farm laborers can command almost any price for their services, but despite alluring offers they are hard to get. Canada is paying as high as \$75 a month for laborers, and in some cases is promising them free homesteads. In the Northern states farm hands can command wages ranging from \$45 to \$60 a month and board. A few years ago the farm hand who could get \$25 or \$30 for his services was considered a genius.

The patriotic service the farmers are doing this year and which they will be called upon to do next year on a much larger scale will add millions, if not billions, of dollars to the wealth of the country. Mobilization of the farm resources has been one of the most stupendous undertakings ever attempted by the government; but it has succeeded admirably well for 1917, despite the late start. By 1918 every available resource of the middle West will be thrown into the production of vastly increased yields of all farm crops.

The Eskimo Tells the World Why He Asks to be Left Alone

"Why are you trying to educate the Eskimos? Why don't you let them alone? They were happy and were able to exist before you began to change their mode of life."

These are the questions that are asked and answered in *The Eskimo*, a monthly magazine published at Nome, Alaska, in the interests of Eskimos of the northwest district of Alaska. Walter C. Shields, superintendent of the work of the bureau of education, department of the interior, in northwestern Alaska, who writes the leading article in this new magazine of the North, says:

"The people who ask these questions, if they are really sincere enough to warrant any consideration, can be divided into two classes. First, those who display their scientific knowledge by quoting the law of 'the survival of the fittest,' with the assumption that the Eskimo is not fit to survive. The second class claim a peculiar insight into the frame of mind of the ancient Eskimo, who, they assert, was an especially contented individual, and furthermore they insist that the Eskimo of today is not contented."

Eskimo Fit and Able.

"This set of critics insists on taking the position, indefensible in this day and generation, that education is a bad thing for a people. The claim of our service is that the Eskimo by reason of his inherent qualities and because of his geographical position is fit and able to survive, and we claim that by our system of education for him we are making him not only more fit to survive, but that he will be a vital factor in the development of northern Alaska."

"The Eskimo is not dependent. On the contrary, he is, even in the present condition, a real and vital factor in the wealth of the country. He has never received a ration from the government; he can support himself, not always according to our standards, it is true, but it is better for him to eat strictly native food than for him to learn to expect the government to support him. The wall so often heard from ignorant but presumably charitable people, 'Why don't you give the poor people some food?' if heeded would make paupers of a self-supporting and noble race. We are proud of the fact that we have not fed the Eskimo. We are proud of him as a man because he feeds himself."

"One reason why primitive races have so often been pushed to the wall by the white race has been that the white race has coveted and needed the land. As far as we can see, for years to come the white man will not make any attempt to push the Eskimo off his part of the map. While there will undoubtedly be developments in mining, yet for a long time to come the Eskimo will have plenty of room in northern Alaska. Therefore, even if this northern part of Alaska, through some unexpected development, should become desirable for a large population, we believe that, with what development the Eskimo has already received and the additional development that even five years more of undisturbed possession of his northern fastnesses will give him, he will be well fitted to meet advanced economic conditions."

"The keynote of our school system for the Eskimo is its direct relation to the village life. Thus the school republic becomes the village council, the school garden soon becomes the village garden, the cooking class becomes the bread-baking class for the village, the clean-up of the school grounds becomes the village clean-up, the bench work for the boys' class becomes the boat and sled building center for the village. And, most striking of all, the schoolboy who is sent to the reindeer herd as an apprentice in four years becomes the trained

herder, the supporter of his family and a future leader of his people."

"We Want No Praise."

"We of the Alaska service are helping to bear the white man's burden; we do not claim to be ministering to a dying race; we want no praise as helpers of the weak or as ministers to the down-trodden who are dying in filth and degradation. We do not allow anyone to class us in these categories. That class of work is entirely humanitarian and is properly the duty of the missionary organizations. But as representatives of the government we claim the right of our service to exist because we are developing the resources of northern Alaska just as much as any man with a pick and pan. We are adding to the wealth of the nation just as much and as surely as any prospector or trailmaker. We are making a country productive just as much as any reclamation project that was ever managed by the government."

The teachers and others who have established *The Eskimo* have been formerly congratulated by United States commissioner of education for their enterprise in inaugurating the magazine. Doctor Claxton believes that it will be of direct help to the service of the bureau of education in Alaska.

REMINISCENCE OF POE.

The painter, William Sartain, contributed some recollection of Edgar Allan Poe to the Art World: "His biographer, Griswold, has slandered him as intemperate. My father said this was not true, and he was most temperate in drinking. It is a considerable confirmation of this that Poe was a model of punctuality in his reviewing and other work for the magazines during all the ensuing 15 years of his life, which comprises his literary career. In 1837 he moved to New York and after a year to Philadelphia, where he wrote some of his finest stories. For much of his literary career he was half starving. His labor over his writings is shown, no doubt with some exaggeration, however, in his article 'The Philosophy of Composition,' written shortly after the publication of 'The Raven.' In this essay he enumerates some of his articles of faith, such as: Beauty is the legitimate province of the poem; It is a pure and intense elevation of the soul, not of the intellect nor the heart."

"But except for these intermittent indulgences, his addition to stimulants must have been grossly exaggerated by his biographer Griswold, whom my father has said he had personally seen on quite bad terms with Poe. My father's acquaintance with him was the more close in the latter years of his life and, as his statements were most positive, these derogatory stories must be taken with a grain of salt. The account I have given of Poe's death after having been robbed of his clothes seems to me to be so reasonable—and, moreover, based on my father's contemporary information—that I cannot accept the story of his having been lured into the hands of an electioneering gang and drugged, so as to be utilized for depositing ballots in numerous polling places."

MISUNDERSTANDING.

"What did the kaiser mean by his promise to his brother-in-law when he knew he couldn't keep it?"
"He wrote and sent him a letter, didn't he?"
"Yes."
"Well, that is what he meant by his mailed fist."

QUOTA BY COUNTIES

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CONSCRIPTS SENT OUT.

FIGURES FROM WASHINGTON

Cover Enlistments Up to June 30. Those Entering Thereafter Credited on the Next Draft.

Lincoln.—Figures on Nebraska's draft quota are contained in a table sent out from the office of Governor Neville. All figures used in the compilation were forwarded from Washington. Nebraska's population, as given by the census bureau, is 1,270,301. The gross draft quota which Washington has assigned to Nebraska is 13,870. From this gross quota there was subtracted each county's credits, consisting of enlistments up to and including June 30 in the National Guard and enlistments in the regular army. No credit was allowed for enlistments in the navy or marine corps or men in the officers' training camps. When the differences had been compiled, it was found that Hamilton county, having a gross quota of 145.46, had an enlistment credit of 151, thus giving this county an excess credit of 5.54. The credits for National Guard and regular army enlistments closed June 30. All enlistments after that date will be credited on the next draft.

Counties	Popula- tion	Gross Quota	Credit	Net Quota
Nebraska	1,270,301	13,870.00	5,091	8,779
Adams	21,258	222.54	109	113
Antelope	14,121	144.35	14	130
Arthur	2,069	22.49	10	12
Banner	1,813	19.80	1	19
Benning	1,695	18.31	1	17
Boone	14,099	152.99	62	90
Box Butte	8,476	92.59	62	30
Boyd	6,045	72.91	14	59
Brown	2,594	26.12	16	10
Buffalo	25,532	246.14	100	146
Butler	12,122	124.46	61	63
Butter	14,446	150.00	61	89
Cass	18,219	199.02	107	92
Cherokee	15,922	172.92	70	103
Chase	4,270	46.63	9	38
Cherry	12,827	148.95	57	92
Cheyenne	9,582	104.66	24	80
Clay	12,257	145.68	32	113
Colfax	11,127	121.65	35	87
Conkling	13,064	144.55	55	89
Custer	24,882	271.30	68	203
Dakota	7,103	77.59	31	47
Dawes	8,530	96.45	50	46
Dawson	15,559	170.06	106	64
Deuel	3,670	40.08	12	28
Dixon	11,254	122.51	44	79
Dodge	22,616	257.96	83	175

Douglas (except City of Omaha)	18,862	206.05	78	128
Dundy	4,614	50.39	7	43
Fillmore	12,423	146.62	47	100
Franklin	9,152	99.97	50	50
Frontier	8,863	96.81	17	80
Furnas	9,945	108.64	11	98
Gall	25,195	285.15	245	41
Garden	5,086	55.55	50	5
Garfield	2,886	31.52	10	21
Gesler	4,517	49.34	1	48
Grant	1,994	21.79	6	16
Greeley	4,408	47.82	63	20
Hall	25,695	275.85	87	189
Hamilton	12,315	145.46	151	1
Harlan	8,369	91.41	28	63
Harrison	12,466	137.66	37	100
Hitchcock	5,397	58.95	8	51
Holt	15,150	165.48	22	143
Hood	1,577	17.22	2	15
Howard	10,590	112.51	28	84
Jefferson	15,986	164.79	39	126
Kimball	9,945	99.79	50	50
Kearney	9,045	98.79	13	86
Keith	5,118	55.90	31	25
Keyhole	8,427	90.81	27	64
Kimball	9,945	108.64	11	98
Knox	18,916	206.64	29	178

Lincoln (except City of Lincoln)	29,361	320.10	99	221
Lincoln	18,498	202.07	83	119
Logan	2,028	22.15	4	18
Loup	1,792	19.57	1	18
Madison	20,794	227.75	14	213
Madison	1,481	16.17	7	10
Merrick	9,278	102.42	34	68
Morrill	10,228	111.68	16	96
Muskegon	9,725	105.28	34	71
Nemaha	10,998	120.13	38	82
Nuckolls	12,017	131.26	35	97
Otoe	17,210	188.44	126	62
Pawnee	8,648	94.46	20	74
Perkins	5,350	58.05	19	39
Phillips	10,021	109.46	17	92
Pierce	10,691	115.79	16	100
Platte	19,745	218.12	95	123
Polk	10,719	117.08	13	104
Red Willow	10,833	118.15	36	80
Richardson	17,794	192.57	146	47
Roose	3,570	40.08	4	36
Saline	15,708	171.59	44	128
Sarpy	8,659	94.60	24	71
Seward	20,487	226.97	60	167
Scottsbluff	19,296	209.80	54	156
Seward	14,929	163.82	31	133
Sheridan	9,471	102.81	32	70
Sherman	8,509	92.94	33	60
Sioux	4,403	48.28	2	46
Stanton	8,358	91.29	6	86
Thayer	13,144	143.57	47	97
Thomas	1,792	19.57	7	12
Thompson	10,643	116.70	9	107
Valley	9,999	109.39	55	54
Washington	11,495	127.75	48	80
Wayne	15,437	170.37	39	131
Webster	10,775	117.11	43	68
Wheeler	2,167	23.39	1	22
York	17,114	186.95	55	132

Omaha	503,958	5,515.09	1,033	1,181
Lincoln	51,641	557.55	370	187

Special Train For Veterans.

A circular now being sent from G. A. R. state headquarters to all local posts announces that a special train bearing the official delegation from this state will leave Lincoln on Saturday, August 18, for the national encampment in Boston, August 19 to 25.

No Decrease in Valuation.

Not a county in the state so far has reported a decrease in valuation to Secretary Bernecker of the State Board of Assessment. Eighty-six have reported, showing a total assessment of \$448,817,234. If the seven counties yet to report show the same valuation as last year the valuation of the state will be about \$25,000,000 more than formerly and probably more. The counties delinquent are Box Butte, Cass, Cherry, Gage, Knox, Loup and Wheeler.

Want Agent in Every County.

Efforts are being made by the state council of defense, Special Agent Fuller of the department of agriculture and officials of the agricultural college to place county agents in all of the counties of the state. Nine counties now have farm demonstrations: Box Butte, Dakota, Dawes, Gage, Kimball, Madison, Seward, Sheridan and Thurston. An appropriation of \$115,000 to put on agent in every county is contained in the food production bill now in conference in Washington.

IN FOR HARD GRIND.

Neville Tells Appeal Board Task Is a Difficult One.

Appellate exemption boards for the north and south Platte districts of Nebraska met at the governor's office and formally organized for work.

The officers chosen were: North Platte District—Douglas Cono, Pierce, chairman; M. C. Peters, Omaha, secretary.

South Platte District—Fred W. Ashton, Grand Island, chairman; Luther B. Frye, Lincoln, secretary.

The north Platte district board will establish headquarters and offices in Omaha, where all hearings will be held, probably at the federal building, while the south Platte board will have its offices at the federal building in Lincoln.

Governor Neville in a brief talk to the board told the members they were in for a long, hard grind. The governor pointed out that each member would be expected to serve during the duration of the war and the grind would not end September 1, when the first draft is completed.

Members of the board were told they should regard themselves as a court of equity and should not permit personal considerations to sway them in announcing rulings upon claims for exemptions.

Boys' Camp Bigger Than Ever.

The boys' camp this year during the state fair bids fair to outshine all previous efforts, according to Secretary Danielson. Attendance at the camp is based on the following: Two boys will be admitted from each of the counties of the state, two extra from Lancaster and four extra from Douglas county. Should any county fail to fill its quota it may be made up from some other county, but no county outside of Douglas can have more than four representatives. The boys are selected by a committee composed of the county superintendent of the county and the resident member of the State Board of Agriculture. The state board pays railroad fare for each boy, but the boy must contribute \$5 for board and furnish blankets.

Launch Fight Against New Rival.

The legislative committee of the Nebraska Farmers' Educational and Co-operative union, during a meeting at the state house, adopted resolutions urging farmers of the state not to join the National Nonpartisan league, and denouncing that organization as a movement brought from outside Nebraska by men unfamiliar with conditions here. Twenty-five delegates from twenty-five counties, headed by President C. H. Gustafson of Mead, attended the meeting, which is the opening gun of the fight the union will wage against its new rival.

H. C. of L. Hits Nebraska.

An increase of 17 per cent, or \$22,000, in the cost of food and clothing for inmates at the fifteen state institutions under the direction of the board of control is disclosed in the quarterly report of State Auditor Smith.

Publisher Gets State Office.

Will M. Maupin, publisher of the York Democrat, has been appointed press agent for Nebraska at a salary of \$2,000 a year. He will devote his whole time to boosting Nebraska's resources. The last legislature created the office.

Will Aid in Securing Seed.

Farmers who have difficulty in securing wheat seed are invited to write to the State Council of Defense at Lincoln, which body promises to render immediate assistance in obtaining the grain.

Receipts on the Increase.

Receipts in the office of Secretary of State Charles Pool made a big increase for July over July of the previous year being \$5,837.40 greater. The total receipts for the months were \$55,954.93.

Williamson to Assist Steele.

Governor Keith Neville announced the appointment of Charles E. Williamson as assistant adjutant general, succeeding Walter Steele of Omaha, who succeeds Phil Hall as adjutant general.

To Prepare Camp for Guards.

Companies C and E of the Fifth regiment, with a detail of nine, have been selected to proceed to Deming, N. M., where they are to assist in the preparation of a camp for the remainder of the Nebraska brigade.

Corn Not Materially Damaged.

According to reports reaching Secretary Danielson of the state board of agriculture, the hot winds and drought have not damaged Nebraska corn to any extent.

To Form "Reserve Militia."

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